



U.S. Small Business Administration

DISASTER NEWS

Economic Injury Loans for Small Businesses

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Disaster Assistance Available for Small Businesses

Sacramento, CA - Small, non-farm businesses in 17 Nevada counties (plus neighboring counties in Arizona, California, Idaho, Oregon and Utah) may now apply for low-interest disaster loans from the U. S. Small Business Administration (SBA). These disaster loans offset economic losses because of reduced revenues caused by drought beginning January 1, 2008 in 15 primary Nevada counties, announced Alfred E. Judd, Director of SBA's Disaster Field Operations Center - West.

Small businesses in the following primary and neighboring counties may apply for working capital loans to offset economic losses that are attributable to the disasters.

Primary **Nevada** Counties: Carson City, Churchill, Clark, Douglas, Elko, Esmeralda, Eureka, Humboldt, Lander, Lincoln, Lyon, Mineral, Pershing, Storey and Washoe;

Neighboring **Nevada** Counties: Nye and White Pine;

Neighboring **Arizona** County: Mohave;

Neighboring **California** Counties: Alpine, El Dorado, Inyo, Lassen, Modoc, Mono, Nevada, Placer, San Bernardino and Sierra;

Neighboring **Idaho** Counties: Cassia, Owyhee and Twin Falls;

Neighboring **Oregon** Counties: Harney, Lake and Malheur;

Neighboring **Utah** Counties: Beaver, Box Elder, Iron, Millard, Tooele and Washington

Small businesses and most private, non-profit organizations of any size may qualify for Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDLs) of up to \$2 million to help meet financial obligations and operating expenses which could have been met had the disaster not occurred. "Eligibility for these loans is based on the financial impact of the disaster only and not on any actual property damage. These loans have an interest rate of 4%, a maximum term of 30 years, and are restricted to small businesses without the financial ability to offset the adverse impact without hardship," Judd said.

By law, SBA makes EIDLs available when the U. S. Secretary of Agriculture designates an agricultural disaster. Secretary Ed Schafer declared these disasters at the request of Governor Jim Gibbons.

Businesses primarily engaged in farming or ranching are not eligible for SBA disaster assistance. Agricultural enterprises should contact the Farm Services Agency (FSA) about the U. S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) assistance made available by the Secretary's declaration. However, in drought disasters nurseries are eligible for SBA disaster assistance.

Information and application forms are available from SBA's Customer Service Center by calling **(800) 659-2955**, emailing disastercustomerservice@sba.gov, or visiting SBA's website at www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance. Hearing impaired individuals may call (800) 877-8339.

SBA's Electronic Loan Application (ELA) is accessible via SBA's secure website at <https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela>.

The deadline to apply is **September 2, 2009**.

For more information visit SBA's website at www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance.

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